

Idaho's Generation of the Child

1st Annual GOVERNOR'S ROUNDTABLE for FAMILIES and CHILDREN

DO YOU KNOW?

Roundtable Discussion 4/25/00

- A "Mental Health Alliance" exists in Idaho Falls as a multiple agency team and addresses children's mental health (Fred Kirns 528-5900)
- There are very limited resources for youth needing intervention strategies
- School District 91 has a good school companion program to help students with behavioral issues (Wade Smith 525-7500)
- Stephen Glenn has a great program for training significant adults in ways that impact students (Developing Capable People 541-552-1477)
- Success by 6 exists in many communities so use those resources
- Adolescents have some of the highest rates of sexually transmitted diseases and are becoming one of the larger populations who acquire HIV
- Information Link 2-1-1 initiative will combine databases. Mountain State Group, The Junior League and United Way are resources that need to be supported.
- Boys and Girls Clubs are opening up five clubs each year across the country
- All military bases throughout the world use Boys and Girls Clubs as their youth centers
- "420" is the universal language that "it's time to get high"
- Head Start and early education program do well
- Girls in homes with absent fathers are more likely to get pregnant
- The number of times a student moves relates to school performance
- Teen moms have been impregnated by men 6 to 10 years older than the mom
- Teen mom without proper education will be pregnant again in 2 years
- Best predictor of a child's education attainment is the educational attainment of the mother
- Asset research of women score lower than men on personal safety
- Lesbian and gay children feel isolated
- One third of all girls are dieting by the 9th grade
- One half of all girls are dieting by the 13th grade
- The population of incarcerated juveniles in adult prisons is growing
- Children of abusive homes are 300% more likely of being abused, and also more likely to become an abuser
- Runaway girls use sex for food and shelter
- 80% of girls and boys in school are sexually harassed
- Children in abusive homes are more prone to mental health issues, developmental delayed and physical impaired
- Parents who received in-home education use in-home educational health services and their children are better adjusted
- Hispanic and American Indian students do significantly less well in school
- Children expelled from school are left to their own devices
- Parents who do not speak English cannot access information that can benefit their children
- All Hispanics do not speak Spanish
- Children with disabilities are often times expelled or suspended from school for reasons beyond their control usually having to do with their disability
- Diversity was included or taken into account in regards to the Round Table discussions
- School Districts are reluctant or refuse to provide drop out statistics
- Schools exempt children with disabilities from statewide training, therefore inflating scores
- Interpretation services are not available at many public agencies
- Most schools spend days prior to statewide testing teaching how to test
- Customer service is important in providing resources
- Building on existing services is better than starting anew
- Prevention costs less than intervention
- State government needs to provide state financial support to family program and early child education
- The importance of sharing local success
- Idaho has one of the highest child suicide rates in the U.S.
- It is very difficult to access state mental health funds for seniors
- If you apply for one service (CHIP) it disqualifies you for HUD housing
- Children aren't receiving the services they need due to lack of funds and staff
- You can't raise children on TAFI
- Immunization needs don't match the pediatric recommendations
- The state childcare program doesn't pay for adequate childcare

- If you have a parent trying to get off drugs, there is nowhere to send her children
- There is a great lack of access for mental health services for children
- We like the Governor and his wife
- We are hopeful that these programs will flourish
- How difficult it is to get housing and/or a voucher
- That rural/frontier areas are being forgotten
- That families in Salmon live in houses with dirt floors and no heat
- That people with medical cards still can't access dentists
- That moving Medicaid to an Rx formula would be destructive to people with mental health problems
- That no one present at the Roundtable represents nutrition programs
- That Idaho dropped from 48 to 49 in spending on children
- That parent education is not enough to assist them in caring for children with special needs
- That 1 in 3 girls and 1 in 8 boys will be sexually abused before age 18; Idaho is #1 in documented cases
- That USA life expectancy is 24th in the world
- That there is no excuse for not getting your child immunized
- Idaho Hispanic children are on the bottom of many Kids Count healthy indicators
- How hard it is to find appropriate mental health professionals for children
- Boise County has no direct or outreach services provided to them from DHW
- Lack of dental, transportation, medical care insurance, etc., are a serious problem
- Foster Care in Idaho is in serious trouble
- Every program has different qualifications for families
- We like the new Health and Welfare shorter application
- Lack of funding is restricting many services around the state and needs to be more of a priority
- Local buy-in is key element and it would be great to have help in getting key people on board
- There is a lot of Idaho that isn't inside the Boise City limits
- The visibility of the Council is important and it should meet at different locations through the state
- Active participation from media people from throughout the state will help tremendously with public awareness
- What the vision is, what legislation will be created, and who will participate
- People don't do their best thinking on a timed schedule with people they do not know
- We need time to assimilate and then spit out our best thinking
- There is an Interagency Coordinating Council in federal and state code
- Funding is needed for detention centers and for all children for summer education
- People would like outcome measures for DHW
- More volunteers are needed
- Over 5,000 infants and toddlers are being monitored
- Expansion and support of home visiting programs is needed
- Expansion and support of substance abuse is needed
- We need more economic development in rural communities
- More transitional classrooms are needed for suspended and expelled students
- The Council should make regular awards highlighting accomplishments of individuals, youth and agencies
- Rural communities are already collaborative experts
- Do we have enough needs assessments
- Economic development is the future of children and families
- A marketing campaign is needed for the Council
- One fifth of all adults are functionally illiterate and adult education funding reaches only 10%
- Idaho is more than potatoes
- Unless the Council is statutory, it is terminal
- 28.6% of children grow up with family alcoholism, alcohol abuse or both
- 95% of all children want discipline
- The number one drug of choice for Idaho young people is marijuana
- Not all schools in Idaho have a crisis management plan in place
- Kids want to know you care!!!
- We can make a difference!
- There isn't necessarily comfort in all communities; relationships are not developed
- Commitment of state must be proven
- Washington politics are important in northern and southeast Idaho
- There must be public/private philanthropic effort
- Sharing between communities must be fostered
- There is no lack of resources but there is a lack of creativity
- Policies of state agencies may become barriers
- Historically, few reform efforts have been sustained over time
- The State of Idaho has masters level SW students as a resource
- Community resource workers in elementary schools have access to funds and services for at risk families
- We can work better together
- The quality of work already is being done in some communities
- Staff needs to be energized
- Population growth has impacted staff and resources
- Fierce independence is not always in the best interest of children
- More youth need to be involved in the process
- Strong programs and collaborations that are working well need to be highlighted and celebrated
- There will be five Promise Fellows and five Vistas in place in communities next year
- There are more rules protecting ourselves in Idaho than there are for our children
- Not everyone is knowledgeable about laws, resources, etc., for kids
- There are misconceptions about what you can/can't do to youth
- Collaboration and resources are needed more than a bunch of new programs.

- It's all about prevention
- People need to be reminded that perseverance and audacity usually win and that practitioners need to be thanked
- Childcare regulations rank 50th out of 50 as being the poorest in the U.S.—children are more important than that
- Find ways to help parents spend more time with their children
- Shift funding priorities from prisons to children
- Kids never outgrow their need for positive attention/praise
- Symbols are very powerful
- Youth participation is very important
- How many unlicensed daycare facilities are there
- That corporations are not aware of the effect of quality child care on the bottom line—Lamb Weston in /Twin Falls made the connection
- The rest of the state feels Boise people are snobbish
- There is no daycare for special needs children
- There is a misconception about Ritalin use in Idaho; it is over prescribed
- The media is not our best friend; education about issues is needed
- The media frames a community's perceptions about themselves
- The brain of a three-year-old is twice as active as an older child's brain
- There is a negative perception of parents needing or using services and resources
- Some people feel home visits are an invasion of privacy
- We have homeless kids in Idaho
- The Panhandle is part of Idaho
- There are many resources available if you just ask
- Many people are willing to help if asked
- No public transportation is available in Idaho except in Boise and Nampa
- The effort and willingness by Governor and Mrs. Kempthorne to provide this conference is appreciated
- We have great meeting places in northern Idaho
- Anything you can do for substance abuse will be an improvement; substance abuse/families is a major problem

- Newborn children test positive for substances
- Substance abuse is a family issue that must be treated and not punished
- Community resource centers needed in many more communities
- A big question on the local level is where do we go from here
- College and universities are resources for mentoring
- 20 to 30 year olds and seniors are least harnessed resource
- More powerful than any other tutoring is being read to by parents
- Collaboration takes time
- Experiments in cultural diversity work
- Programs such as Log Cabin Literacy work
- Research links immunizations to increases in asthma, autism and brain damage because they are given too early
- Work over Welfare works because people have ownership of their lives
- Child care works best when training and support accompany high standards of care
- Parent substance abuse is a child protection issue
- The elderly is an asset under used
- Kids can make a contribution to the community
- Everything is being done somewhere—we just need to find and use it
- If you ask for help you will receive it
- Everyone is an asset builder—they just might not know
- You get what you count
- You need to continually ask for feedback
- There are a lot of good things going on they just lack coordination
- Stop doing things for kids and start doing thing with kids
- Some kids are over involved and they need time to dream
- Duplication of services can be a problem
- Evaluate needs and just do it
- In Idaho there are small children who molest smaller children
- People roll their eyes when DHW is mentioned; DHW has an unbelievable bad reputation—because they've earned it

- A short time is needed between arrest and adjudication for teen criminals
- Not every child should go back into the home
- Lots of people are willing to help, they only need to be asked
- The money is there—more access and allocation of grants is needed
- Children need a place and a person where they can voice their concerns and problems—are children really being listened to concerning their problems
- Hotlines help children
- This type of workshop energizes us to go back to our own area and create change
- There are many children in frontier communities that need more love and attention
- Rural areas should receive more funding per capita to meet the needs of children
- There are children In Idaho who are hungry, who live in tents, who live in homes with no water
- Educators in rural areas are every bit as educated, experienced, and innovative as any urban school
- There are communities without food banks, H&W personnel, or enough counselors
- There are communities without safe schools
- There are homes that consist of two rooms and house two or three families
- There are school board members who don't even know about their own districts
- There are Hispanic families that never have their issues addressed and their children's education is important too
- This issue needs to be kept in front of legislators
- Roundtables on how to lobby legislators are needed
- Establish a Children's and Families Legislator of the Year award
- The more complicated, the less likely to stick with
- Need resources to maintain interest and activity
- If you want someone to attend, ask them to participate in some way
- Need youth involvement
- Need more information about goals and objective

- Send youth and adults to Search Conference in November, one adult and youth from each region to return and report at the local level
- Sun Valley Prevention Conference—Governor should have own track
- Bring in grant providers to next meeting/conference to begin relationships between them and local people
- Much good is already happening
- Few youth were involved in this meeting
- DHW has an organized statewide communicator network
- State has many separate coordinating councils
- Idaho has a number of competing advocacy groups
- Limited resources
- There is already a regional network of resources, providers, etc., concerned with early childhood care, education and health in Ada County
- There is existing web sites listing family and children's resources
- County welfare helps when state can't
- Central District Health offers many programs to families and children that no one is aware of
- We are not doing enough to prepare citizens for marriage and parenting
- In order to have children reading at grade level their parents need to be able to read, and many can't
- Programs for children with disabilities are under funded
- The state needs to focus on prevention activities such as child abuse neglect and wellness
- The hardest part of the Council's job will be to identify all the services already available
- There is a network of human resource personnel from the corporate world that could assist in connecting public services with the services the company has available to partner to create more family friendly workplaces
- There are almost no providers of services to individuals covered by Medicaid because reimbursement is so low and regulations and paperwork are overwhelming
- A person who committed homicide tried to register as ICCP provider
- Education and training correlate with quality childcare
- Childcare providers asked to have a bill introduced to strengthen regulation of the industry
- Early childhood education is birth to 8 years
- West Virginia offered three different ways for parents to receive parent education
- Evening and weekend childcare can be virtually impossible
- One size doesn't fit all
- Poor children can make up to five transitions a day between caregivers
- ICCP will not pay for the providers cost of infant and toddler care
- Parents work opposite shifts in order to be able to take care of their children
- Scope of projects, new resources, real goals need to be defined
- How is project sustained through changing administration
- When choosing people, also look at skills, not just titles, such as listeners, analogies, mediators, creativity, negotiators, service on multiple boards, those with visions, collaborative skills, nonterritorial, age-diversity, and those able to network
- Provide focus to committee
- The following are important: common vision, mutual respect, out of the box thinkers, building relationship between Coordinating Council and local sites, minimize paperwork, simple systems, special efforts to assure all groups are represented, clear objective, clear delineation of roles, revisiting goals and objects regularly, evaluations feedback, involvement of all areas of the State of Idaho
- Important: Going on site building relationships; first hand experience in communities; ask what local efforts are needed; if asked for information, be certain to provide; minimize bureaucracy and paperwork; accountability to local efforts; acknowledge that local efforts are heard and how used; Council driven by local efforts and needs
- Local efforts: broad membership; open to new people, new ideas; local to local effort sharing; interaction to other local efforts, share lessons; research based assessment of baseline data; outcome focus through shared vision; commitment on board; willingness to develop relations; connect and value
- Rural communities/lack of resource—who do we resource too?
- Needs of people addressed on an individual basis versus agencies rules and regulations (think out of the box)
- Statewide regulations on home schooling
- Single parent (mom) families—more attention
- Early childcare regulations—stricter licensing regulations
- Kinship placements versus foster care—kinship is paid.
- Grandparents rearing children—grandparents need financial, legal, emotional support
- Families with disability funding
- Self-reliance—addressing mental health clients being sanctioned for not completing 35 hours.
- All individuals, families and communities have strengths
- About “our gathering place” after school HS, art park, statewide and health communities initiative, adult branch for developmental assets
- Substance abuse is a family problem that needs a solution instead of punishment
- For every \$1 spent on early intervention, \$7 are saved later in life.
- That there is an auto “kids plate” in every county in Idaho.
- Top three:
 1. Relationships and common vision, communication systems (go to local communities, build on site relationships)
 2. Researched-based and outcome-focused
 3. Minimize bureaucracy and paperwork demands